Wednesday, January 19, 2011

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.   **Late Registration and Pick Up Conference Packets**

Thursday, January 20, 2011

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.   **Late Registration and Pick Up Conference Packets**

7:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.   **Breakfast – Sponsored by Questar Assessment, Inc. and OPI**
Trapper/Scout

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.   **Opening Remarks - Conference Kickoff**
Trapper/Scout   Judy Snow, State Assessment Director

8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.   **Keynote: Motivating Students in the 21st Century**
Trapper/Scout   **Paul Andersen, 2011 Montana Teacher of the Year**
     Joules Killmurray, Bozeman High School Student

9:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.   **Break**

10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.   **Keynote Follow-up**
Prospector   Paul Andersen

10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.   **Development of a Class Profile for School Success**
Homesteader   Jerad Avery, Glacier High School
Data and information can be overwhelming and underutilized. This presentation is designed to share a simple strategy I use to lower the drop-out rate, support RTI, and place students in appropriate courses.

10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.   **Entering Assessment Data in AIM**
Ranch/N 40   Sara Loewen, OPI and Kathy Cuppy, Infinite Campus
This double session will provide an overview of the Assessment Module in the AIM (Infinite Campus) system. Participants will see the assessment details that can be entered including proficiency levels, achievement standards, scaled scores, raw scores and more. Participants will see how to create test structures, import state and district assessments, and create reports that incorporate student demographic data. State staff will provide an update on the OPI's plans for tracking student assessment data.

10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. S 40	**Writing Pilot Panel** Kris Goyins, OPI and Brenda Hayes, Vantage Learning OPI and the Board of Public Education are sponsoring a two-phase pilot of online writing programs to be used as a formative assessment resource. In phase 2, thirty teachers and 1300 students are "testing" an online program that was recommended by participants in the first phase of the pilot. Please join a group of participating teachers for a demonstration of the program and a panel discussion of the experiences of the students and teachers. This is a double session with the demonstration and the beginning of the panel discussion during the first 70 minute session followed by a ten minute break and the final panel discussion and a question and answer session during the second 70 minutes.
10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. Explorer	**CRT and CRT-Alt Test Materials*** Dan Verdick and Tim Greenlaw, Measured Progress This presentation is intended to familiarize test coordinators and administrators with the testing materials and the resources that are available to help them administer the CRT and CRT-Alternate. We will discuss shipping and receiving, important dates and contacts, where to access information and documents, show what the materials actually look like, and how to code the answer booklets.
10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. Ballroom	**Analyzing Data to Meet the Instructional Needs of Students** Andrea Fischer and Linda Filpula, Laurel This session will focus on how Laurel Public Schools uses MAP data, MontCAS results, and district assessments to plan and differentiate instruction for our students. We will share the steps for analyzing data at the classroom, building, and district level and how to start interpreting results that lead to instructional decisions.
10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. Parlor 110	**MARS/CRT Released Items** Karen Richem, OPI This session will provide an overview of the Web-based MARS reporting system including system access, functionality, and navigation. Participants will explore disaggregating and exporting data using MARS. We will also look at the CRT released items and how they are used in conjunction with MARS.
11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Prospector	**Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)** Judy Snow, OPI Montana is one of 30 states that have been working collaboratively since December 2009 to apply for a Race-to-the Top Assessment grant. On September 2, 2010, SBAC was awarded a four-year $176 million grant by the US Department of Education to develop a student assessment system aligned to a common core of academic standards. This session will provide an overview of the project.
11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Homesteader	**Development of a Class Profile for School Success** Jerad Avery, Glacier High School Data and information can be overwhelming and underutilized. This presentation is designed to share a simple strategy I use to lower the drop-out rate, support RTI, and place students in appropriate courses.
11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Ranch/N 40	**Entering Assessment Data in AIM (Continued)** Sara Loewen, OPI and Kathy Cuppy, Infinite Campus
11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. S 40	**Writing Pilot Panel (Continued)** Kris Goyins, OPI and Brenda Hayes, Vantage Learning

11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Explorer	**CRT-Alt Administration*** Tim Greenlaw, Measured Progress and Mandi Crable, Billings This session will focus on the administration procedures for the CRT-Alternate Assessment. A complete review of how CRT-Alternate test materials are received, distributed and used during test administration will be discussed. The session will also provide participants with important dates and deadlines, as well as information on how to label and return materials.
11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Ballroom	**Conduits for Student Learning: Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum, Pacing Guides, and Common Assessments** Dan Zorn for Michele Paine, Kalispell The process of creating guaranteed and viable curriculum, pacing guides, and common assessments creates a culture focused on student learning. Learn how one district's journey within this process resulted in many collaborative conversations about student learning and a renewed focus on student achievement.
11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Parlor 110	**Basic Data Presentation Principles** Scott Furois, OPI This is an introduction to data presentation tools (such as pivot tables and charts) in Excel, as well as some tips to improve the clarity of the charts and tables produced with this data.
12:30 p.m. – 1:40 p.m. Trapper/Scout	**Lunch – Sponsored by Measured Progress and OPI** **Entertainment: Lockwood Elementary Choir Group**
1:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Prospector	**Test Administration, Test Security, and Accommodations*** Judy Snow, OPI This session will provide an update and review procedures, terms, and clarifications in preparation for training school personnel in administration of the CRT.
1:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Homesteader	**District Wide Grading Practice Guidelines** Dan Zorn, Kalispell Assistant Superintendent Kalispell's experience creating district grading practice guidelines will be shared. The research base relied upon will be reviewed and the challenges encountered in this process will be discussed.
1:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Ranch/N 40	**CRT-Alt Administration*** Tim Greenlaw, Measured Progress and Mandi Crable, Billings This session will focus on the administration procedures for the CRT-Alternate Assessment. A complete review of how CRT-Alternate test materials are received, distributed and used during test administration will be discussed. The session will also provide participants with important dates and deadlines, as well as information on how to label and return materials.
1:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. S 40	**Introducing the "Many Birds" Approach to Build Skills, Content Knowledge and Contextual Awareness through Full Implementation of Indian Education for All** Tammy Elser, OPI Are you trying to make instruction in your classroom or school more rigorous, thought provoking and engaging? Are you concerned with achievement, dropouts and equity? This session introduces the "Many Birds" approach as found in the newly published Framework for Indian Education for All Implementation. This approach to integration can help teachers, assessment and curriculum coordinators, administrators and the students they serve, achieve academic goals through robust implementation of Indian Education for All. Hands-on activities and a demonstration will be provided to promote fresh ideas about how full implementation of Indian Education for All can support student achievement.

1:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Explorer	**'AIM'formation** Sara Loewen, OPI This session will provide the 'AIM'formation you need regarding entering and verifying your student data in the AIM system related to the Assessment Registration and Program Participation Collections this spring. We'll cover important dates, deadlines, data verification, and other quality assurance steps the OPI performs.
1:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Ballroom	**Standards Based Performance Rubrics** Colet Bartow, Deb Poole, and Terri Barclay, OPI This presentation will provide a baseline introduction to Montana's standards-based framework. In addition, the session will provide information about Essential Learning Expectations and related Performance Rubrics.
1:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Parlor 110	**Analysis of Data with MARS and Excel** Scott Furois and Karen Richem, OPI This session will provide ideas and instruction on the use of data in MARS and Excel. We will show how to sort data in MARS and look for trends. We will include introductory function use in excel as well as how to create pivot tables and charts.
3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	**Break – Sponsored by Measured Progress, Infinite Campus, and OPI**
3:15 p.m. - 4:25 p.m. Prospector	**Test Administration, Test Security, and Accommodations*** Judy Snow, OPI This session will provide an update and review procedures, terms, and clarifications in preparation for training school personnel in administration of the CRT.
3:15 p.m. - 4:25 p.m. Homesteader	**Data Driven Decision Making** Lynn Kelting-Gibson, MSU Data driven decision making is a topic we hear a lot about but don't often know exactly what it means. In this session we will actively analyze pre, formative and summative assessments and determine what our next steps will be in the teaching/learning process. In addition to data analysis, we will be discussing differentiated instruction and how it fits into the data driven decision making process.
3:15 p.m. - 4:25 p.m. Ranch/N 40	**CRT and CRT-Alt Test Materials*** Dan Verdick and Tim Greenlaw, Measured Progress This presentation is intended to familiarize test coordinators and administrators with the testing materials and the resources that are available to help them administer the CRT and CRT-Alternate. We will discuss shipping and receiving, important dates and contacts, where to access information and documents, show what the materials actually look like, and how to code the answer booklets.
3:15 p.m. - 4:25 p.m. S 40	**Formative Assessment for Montana Educators (FAME)** Stevie Schmitz, Rocky Mountain College The purpose of the Formative Assessment for Montana Educators (FAME) class is to increase the understanding of and the use of formative assessment in the classroom. Professional Learning Communities learn and share about this topic using online technology. Using assessment over the course of instruction to adapt teaching and learning to meet student needs is formative assessment contrasted with summative assessment, which is evaluation after instruction to determine to what degree learning has occurred. Knowing how or if students are progressing and where they are struggling helps teachers to fill the gap by making instructional changes such as re-teaching, trying alternative approaches, offering more opportunities for practice, etc. Formative assessment and the resulting activities can lead to improved student achievement. This course builds in part on the work of Dr. Margaret Heritage of the UCLA Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards and Student Testing. Come learn what new professional development will be offered through OPI in the coming months!

3:15 p.m. - 4:25 p.m. Explorer	**Adequate Yearly Progress for Montana Schools and Districts** Denise Bond and Sue Mohr, OPI This presentation will demonstrate to educators the processes used to determine the Adequate Yearly Progress results and build on the understanding of the AMOs (Annual Measurable Objectives).
3:15 p.m. - 4:25 p.m. Ballroom	**Common Core State Standards** Jean Howard and Kris Goyins, OPI In this session participants will be provided with an overview of the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics and English Language Arts. Educators will be informed of Montana's involvement in the Common Core Standards Initiative.
3:15 p.m. - 4:25 p.m. Parlor 110	**ELP Reports** Karen Richem, OPI and BJ Vickery, Questar This session will provide an overview of the ELP Assessment interpretation guide and reports. Guidelines for identification of LEP students and determining when LEP students become proficient will be discussed.

Friday, January 21, 2011

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	**Late Registration and Pick Up Conference Packets**

7:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
   Trapper/Scout

Breakfast – Sponsored by Measured Progress and OPI

8:30 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.
   Trapper/Scout

Opening Remarks
Judy Snow, Assessment Director

9:00 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.
   Prospector

Conduits for Student Learning: Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum, Pacing Guides, and Common Assessments
Dan Zorn for Michele Paine, Kalispell
The process of creating guaranteed and viable curriculum, pacing guides, and common assessments creates a culture focused on student learning. Learn how one district's journey within this process resulted in many collaborative conversations about student learning and a renewed focus on student achievement.

9:00 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.
   Homesteader

Administering the CRT in a Large School
Jerad Avery, Glacier High School
In the Fall of 2009, I surveyed all AA schools in preparation for administering the CRT. The CRT survey was instrumental in developing our CRT administration model. Our results from the 2010 CRT were instrumental in passing AYP for the first time.

9:00 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.
   Ranch/N 40

Accommodations Research
Dr. John Bielinski, Psychometric Consulting & Data Analysis Services
This session is a report on the studies Dr. Bielinski completed for the Office of Public Instruction on how accommodations affect test validity for students with disabilities and limited English proficiency as well as general education students.

9:00 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.
   S 40

Using Common Formative Assessments to Drive Instruction and Increase Collaboration
Angel Zickefoose, Billings
Learn how elementary and middle school math teachers increased student success in mathematics by monitoring student learning using common assessments. Teachers shifted to a focus on student learning of mathematics from the traditional "I taught it - they need to learn it" mind set. This shift has caused improvement in student achievement, attitudes towards math and success in school.

9:00 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.
   Explorer

What about the GED?
Margaret Bowles, OPI
The GED is a high stakes assessment that plays a valuable role in the State's education system. This session will provide information on a proposed GED Options Program for enrolled high school students and the upcoming GED Initiative that is being supported by the State Workforce Investment Board.

9:00 a.m. - 10:10 a.m. Ballroom	**Standards Based Performance Rubrics** Colet Bartow, Deb Poole, and Terri Barclay, OPI This session will provide a baseline introduction to Montana's standards-based framework. In addition, the session will provide information about Essential Learning Expectations and related Performance Rubrics.
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10:20 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Homesteader	**GEMS (Growth and Enhancement of Montana's Students) – Montana's Statewide Longitudinal Data System** Jamey Ereth and Sue Mohr, OPI This presentation will be the kickoff/introduction to schools and districts regarding how OPI plans to establish Montana's first statewide longitudinal data warehouse for K-12 education data. One early objective is to develop a data governance model that serves the needs of the State's educational system. This presentation will provide an overview and explanation geared to schools and districts regarding their role in this exciting new project including an overview of the tools which will allow them to access student information using business intelligence tools. Since this project is a multi-year endeavor, this will be the first of many presentations OPI would like to provide in the next three years. It will be important to keep schools and districts informed as this project develops especially as a forum to learn their views and advise.
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10:20 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Explorer	**Professional Learning Communities: Why This? Why Now? Why Bother?** Seena Demmons, Missoula Participants will understand components of effective PLC's and how they differ from traditional Staff/Dept/Team meetings. We will explore the benefits of PLC participation for both teachers and students who live and work in the 21st Century. Participants will experience selected PLC routines and practices that can be readily implemented.
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11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Trapper/Scout	**Lunch –Sponsored by OPI**
12:30 p.m.	**Conference Adjourns**